National Highways in Jharkhand

†212. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise amount allocated, released and spent on development and maintenance of National Highways in Jharkhand;

(b) whether any proposal for widening and strengthening of National Highways in the State is pending for approval; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The funds allocated (released), to Government of Jharkhand on development and maintenance of National Highways during last three years and expenditure thereon is as under:

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	Allocation (Release)	Expenditure
2003-2004	52.16	46.66
2004-2005	58.78	26.46
2005-2006	61.37	61.35

(b) and (c) No proposal included in Annual Plan 2006-2007 for widening and strengthening is pending for approval in this Ministry.

Speed governors on all stage carriers

213. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the High Court of Kerala have come to the notice of the Ministry that speed governors should be installed on all stage carriers and heavy vehicles in Kerala;

(b) whether Government would consider it proper to introduce speed governors in one single State in isolation, especially Kerala which is heavily dependent on essential consumer items from other States; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the Union Ministry would take steps to amend the Motor Vehicles Rules to tide over the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c) Under Rule 118 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, State Governments have been empowered to notify the specified transport vehicle for fitment of speed governors, depending upon the traffic conditions. Amendments of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 are not necessary.

International Transshipment Terminal at Vizhinjam in Kerala

214. SHRI K. E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for denying security clearance to the proposed Deep Water International Transshipment Terminal at Vizhinjam near Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala;

(b) the steps taken to reconsider the issue on the basis of the promise given by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to the all party delegation from Kerala;

(c) whether security clearance has been given in the past to any Chinese Company to undertake work in the country, especially in the Marine field; and

(d) considering the benefits the country can derive with the implementation of this project, whether Government would take immediate steps to give clearance to the Project in the present form?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The Government decided not to grant security clearance to the bidder proposed by the Government of Kerala for undertaking the project for the development of Deep Water International Container Transhipment Terminal at Vizhinjam in Kerala. Since the matter pertains to national security, it is not appropriate to disclose further details in this regard. Vizhinjam Port is a Non-Major port and the responsibility for its development vests with the State Government of Kerala.